



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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### *2008 Agency-Request Legislation*

*April 1, 2008*

Two agency-request legislative proposals were passed by the Legislature during the 2008 session and signed into law by the Governor.

#### **HB 2467 Registration and Administration of Fertilizers**

This bill addresses confusing, outdated or unnecessary provisions in the state's fertilizer law. Specifically, the bill:

- Clarifies requirements for labeling of packaged, bulk, and customer-formula fertilizers.
- Reinstates in statute the due dates for fertilizer distribution reports.
- Removes outdated language in the four amended sections of the statute.

This bill makes it easier for WSDA to administer and for companies to comply with the law.  
*Effective June 12, 2008.*

#### **EHB 3381, Sections 15-27 Pesticide Registration and Licensing Fees**

These sections of EHB 3381 increase pesticide registration and licensing fees by 33%, to maintain core Pesticide Program operations and services through FY 2013. WSDA's core Pesticide Program has 43 FTEs and an annual budget of \$4.1 million to carry out the following activities:

- Review and register more than 11,000 pesticide products for use in the state, and annually process about 80 requests for special pesticide registrations and experimental use permits.
- Investigate complaints of possible pesticide misuse, conduct field inspections of pesticide manufacturers and applicators, and provide technical assistance to pesticide users.
- Test, license, and administer a continuing education program for more than 22,000 pesticide applicators, dealers and consultants, and structural pest inspectors. Administer a program to train Spanish-speaking farm workers in safe and legal use of pesticides.

The legislation increases *licensing fees* by \$8 to \$45 depending on the license type, with most (70%) seeing their annual license cost increasing from \$25 to \$33. Pesticide *product registration fees* increase by \$100 (from \$290 per product to \$390 per product) for a two-year registration.

Implementing this first fee increase in 11 years will generate \$840,000 annually and improve WSDA's ability to provide services to the regulated community and responsiveness to the public.  
*Effective January 1, 2009.*

Note: These statutory changes in pesticide fees were originally introduced as SB 6242.

For more information, contact **Jeff Canaan**, Assistant to the Director, (360) 902-1918.